

U.S. Appl. No. 09/844,354
Reply to Office Action dated July 1, 2005

PATENT
450100-4138.1

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-25 are pending. Claims 1, 11-13 and 21-25 are independent. Claims 1, 8, 11-13, 15, 16 and 21-25 are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Changes to the claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-8 and 11-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,585,838 to Lawler, et al. (hereinafter, merely "Lawler").

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Lawler in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,798,785 to Hendricks, et al. (hereinafter, merely "Hendricks").

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IV. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

"An information providing apparatus, comprising:...

wherein the first information, which may change, comprises electronic program guide information associated with a program; and

wherein the second information, which may not be changed, comprises electronic program guide information associated with a program;...and

second providing means for providing layout information which relates to a layout of the electronic program guide information when displayed on a screen, and wherein the first information and the second information each include a tag to enable data included therein to be associated with the layout information." (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, Lawler relates to a program time guide for an interactive viewing system which allows a user to control the time and channels for which program information is displayed. The user can navigate through the program time guide to identify and select desired programs. The program time guide displays information for various types and sources of programming by assigning each program source a channel number. Selecting a program on a particular channel causes the system to tune to an associated frequency to receive video signals, launch a computer executed application which generates displayed information, or to perform some other activity associated with that channel or program.

Applicants submit that Lawler does not teach or suggest the above-identified features of claim 1. Specifically, Applicants submit that there is no teaching or suggestion of, wherein the first information, which may change, comprises electronic program guide information associated with a program, wherein the second information, which may not be changed, comprises electronic program guide information associated with a program, second

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providing means for providing layout information which relates to a layout of the electronic program guide information when displayed on a screen, and wherein the first information and the second information each include a tag to enable data included therein to be associated with the layout information, as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to, or somewhat similar to, those described above with regard to independent claim 1, amended independent claims 11-13 and 21-25 are also believed to be patentable.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 11-13 and 21-25 are patentable.

V. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from the independent claim discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

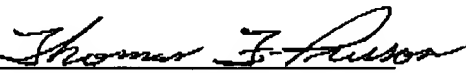
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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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